CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method implemented on a user interface incorporated in a computer system coupled with a scanner for performing an automatic scan operation on an original document, the computer system running a scanner driver and an application program; the method comprising the steps of:

storing a set of default image processing settings in the user interface;

activating the scanner to perform a primitive scan operation on the original document based on the default image processing settings to thereby obtain a primitive scanned image which is then transferred to the scanner driver;

activating the scanner driver to perform a set of image processing routines on the primitive scanned image to thereby obtain the image qualities of the original document; and based on the image qualities of the original document, specifying a set of suited image processing settings for optimal scan of the original document; and

activating the scanner to perform a final scan operation on the original document based on the suited image processing settings to thereby obtain a final scanned image which is transferred to the application program for use by the application program.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the set of image processing routines include automatic cutting.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the set of image processing routines include distortion correction.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the set of image processing routines include color calibration.

- 10 -

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of image processing routines include automatic character recognition.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the suited image processing settings are obtained in such a manner as to allow the image qualities of the final scanned image to be closest to the image qualities of the original document.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the application program is an image editing program.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the application program is a word processor program.

9. A user interface for use on a computer system coupled with a scanner for performing an automatic scan operation on an original document, the computer system running a scanner driver and an application program;

the user interface comprising:

means for storing a set of default image processing settings;

means for activating the scanner to perform a primitive scan operation on the original document based on the default image processing settings to thereby obtain a primitive scanned image which is then transferred to the scanner driver;

means for activating the scanner driver to perform a set of image processing routines on the primitive scanned image to thereby obtain the image qualities of the original document; and based on the image qualities of the original document, obtaining a set of suited image processing settings for optimal scan of the original document; and

means for activating the scanner to perform a final scan operation on the original document based on the suited image processing settings to thereby obtain a final scanned image which is transferred to the application program for use by the application program.

10.   The user interface of claim 9, wherein the set of image processing routines include automatic cutting.

11.   The user interface of claim 9, wherein the set of image processing routines include distortion correction.

12.   The user interface of claim 9, wherein the set of image processing routines include color calibration.

13.   The user interface of claim 9, wherein the set of image processing routines include automatic character recognition.

14.   The user interface of claim 9, wherein the suited image processing settings are obtained in such a manner as to allow the image qualities of the final scanned image to be closest to the image qualities of the original document.

15.   The user interface of claim 9, wherein the application program is an image editing program.

16.   The user interface of claim 9, wherein the application program is a word processor program.

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